Mr. K. J. Antony.—When was Mr. Koshi Mathew appointed in the Medical Department?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is not a supplementary question to this.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know what extra work is given to Mr. Koshi Mathew?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—He is the Assistant Surgeon in the Ophthalmic Hospital.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Was he assisting the X-Ray expert, when the expert was there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer is given there.

Teaching of Hindi.

25. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Hindi language is taught in any of the schools of the State now;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, the number of schools in which it is taught;

(c) if the answer is in the negative, whether they intend introducing it in the curriculum of studies in schools?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) and (b). Yes, sanction has been given to conduct private classes in four institutions.

(c) No.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Did the Government conider the desirability of introducing Hindi in the curricula of studies in Schools?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It cannot be made compulsory in all the schools.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I never said that it was to be made compulsory. My question does not say that it should be made compulsory. May I know the difficulties that were found by the Government in their way?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I want notice.

Collection of metals for roads.

26. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the total length of P. W. D. roads on the sides of which metals for repair have been collected and kept this year;

(2) the reasons why they did not make arrangements for storing them outside, thereby causing inconvenience and danger to traffic?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—(1) No statistics are available.

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(2) The Department takes pains to see that metal is collected outside the road margins wherever possible. In some places this is impossible owing to the narrow width of roads and lands on either side. Every endeavour is being made to remove the evil. A provision of Rs. 2,000 has been made in the budget for 1104 for putting up metal tablets in places where the roads are narrow.

Appointment of the Head clerk in the Office of the Superintendent of Registration.

27. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the Superintendent of Registration has recommended for the promotion of a Brahmin clerk under him (who is only a matriculate) as the Head clerk of his department;

(2) whether there is not a provision in the Standing Orders that, in cases of promotions, the graduates in the department should be preferred to non-graduates and whether there is also not a Proceedings of the Diwan to the same effect;

(3) if the answers to the above are in the affirmative, why is it that the Superintendent did not recommend the graduate clerks in his department in preference to the clerk he has now recommended for the appointment as Head clerk;

(4) whether any graduate clerk of the department has submitted a petition pointing out his claims; and if so, what action has been taken upon it;

(5) whether the Government have the idea to insist upon the claims of graduates in preference to those of non-graduates in the cases of such departmental promotions?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Superintendent has recommended his second clerk Mr. C. K. Narasimha Ayyar for the Head clerk's place in his office.

(2) No.

(3) The question does not arise in view of the answer to (2).

(4) No.

(5) Yes, as far as possible, and subject to the reasonable claims of others too.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—May I know when this recommendation was made?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I think it was in the beginning of Edavam or so.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Is it disposed of?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Where is it pending?

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